

Militia Discipline.

THE
WORDS of COMMAND,
AND
DIRECTIONS
FOR

Exercising the Musket, Bayonet, and Cartridge:
And the Exercise for the Soldiers of the MILITIA Horse,
Arm'd with Carbine, Pistols, and Sword: Required by
the late Act of Parliament, *Anno Primo GEORGII Regis*,
For making the MILITIA of that Part of GREAT-
BRITAIN call'd ENGLAND, more useful, &c.
with Observations on the several Beats of the Drum, of
Ranks and Files, of their several Distances. Directions
for compleating a Battalion, or Company, before an
Officer begins to Exercise. The Evolutions. Of Firing.
Demonstrating every Posture, and Motion of the Body,
Hand, and Foot, with the Number of Motions, in per-
forming the several Commands; which have been per-
used and approv'd of by several GREAT COMMANDERS,
and Adjutants; who agree, 'tis the compleatest Method
for Disciplining the said MILITIA. For the Instruction
of Young Soldiers.

By *W. B. Gent.*

The Second Edition.

L O N D O N,

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TO THE
READER.

S I R,



PRESENT you with the First
Rudiments of Education, for
Entring young Gentlemen, and
others, that desire to be in-
structed in the Art of MILI-
TIA DISCIPLINE, which have been per-
fected and approved of by several Adjutants,

A 2

as

To the Reader.

as proper Instructions for Exercising the Musket, Bayonet, Cartouch-box, and Sword, Carbine, Pistols, and Sword: Mention'd in the late Act of Parliament, *Anno Primo GEORGII Regis*, for making the MILITIA of that Part of GREAT-BRITAIN call'd ENGLAND, more useful, &c.

The right Knowledge in well managing, and handling of such Arms, is my Intention to set forth, which may easily be attain'd by frequent Practice, and every one be capable of using them with Ease, Safety, and Delight. But without Practice, and Exercise, the compleatest Arms, are not only troublesome Burthens, unto the unskilful Bearers, but too often prove Dangerous; and Hurtful, both to themselves, and Fellows, that Rank and File with them.

I hope none will be dishearten'd at their Beginning; for be assur'd, that by Practice they will gain Knowledge: Knowledge begets Courage, and makes a good Assurance;
few

To the Reader.

few or none being fearful to put that in Execution, with a commendable Celerity, which by frequent Practice they have thoroughly Learn'd.

The MILITIA is properly term'd the Bulwark of a Kingdom: Witness several of our Neighbours, who are Defended by their own Burghers, and without such Defence, Laws wou'd prove Weak and Ineffectual; for did not the Violaters fear that Power, which is of Force to compel, and punish Insurrections, Rebellions, and Invasions, the Laws, and Wisdom of all Legislature, of themselves, wou'd be but of little Force. And History acquaints us, how the Neglect of Warlike Discipline, hath been the Ruin of many States and Countries.

The *Asiatick* Nations, under the Conduct of *Antigonus*, and *Demetrius*, were as terrible to the *Greeks*, as the *Greeks* had but a little Time before been to them, under *Alexander's* Command. And it is plain, that it was the Want of DISCIPLINE, more

To the Reader.

more than of Courage, that made the PERSIAN Armies so easy a Prey to that General. For the same Dominions, under better Command, were not only terrible to Greece, but even made a Stand to the Roman Arms, in the Height of their Military Glory.

The Conquest *Hannibal* made, by an Army, composed of the Refuse of Nations; the late Engagements of the *Muscovites* with the *Swedes*; and the *French* with the *English*, are sufficient Proofs how far a Nation may be Disciplin'd out of the Fear of another, which they have formerly been aw'd by.

Nor knew the *English* how to retrieve their Ancestral Honour, 'till our Great Generals taught them, how to equal their Discipline, to their Courage. And if by such Means, in a Feminine Reign, were gain'd such Victories, what may we expect from the Auspicious Government, of the Greatest of our Kings? A Sovereign, who has signalized His Zeal for our most Holy Religion, in Wars against the Infidel *Turks*;
and

To the Reader.

and His Affection to our Country, by delivering us from Domestick Treacheries, and Foreign Violence.

Nil tam difficile est, quod non solertia vincat.

Nothing's so hard, but Practice will subdue:

And Conquests, after Practice, will ensue.

Then, when you are, a Compleat Soldier grown;

Triumph, and Glory, will your Labour Crown.

Your Servant,

WILL. BRETON.

To the Reader.

and His Affection to our Country, by de-
livering us from Domestick Tyranny,
and Foreign Violence.

My dear friends, I am glad to see you.

Nothing is so hard, but I shall do my best.

And I shall do my best, I shall do my best.

Then, when you see me, I shall do my best.

I shall do my best, I shall do my best.



WILL. BARTON.



Words of
COMMAND
for the Exer-
cise of the
Foot, Arm'd
with FIRE-
LOCKS and
BAYONETS,
&c.

Number of Motions.

Directions.

No Motion is to be made,
till the Word is fully given;
then to be perform'd with
a Gaiety: And the Time
of telling One, Two, al-
low'd betwixt One Motion
and the next.

I.
Join your
Right Hand
to your Fire-
locks.

AT One quick Mo-
tion, turn the
Locks upwards,
flip down your Piece a
little, the Butt-end before
your Breast, lay hold with
your Right Hand below
your Lock, both Elbows
extended.

B

Raise

*Commands.**Directions.*

II.
*Poise your
Firelocks.*

Number of Motions.

1.

Raise your Firelocks with a strong Motion with both Hands; extend your Right Hand before you, as high as your Shoulder, holding your Piece the Lock outwards, your Left Hand strait down by your side.

III.
*Rest your
Firelocks.*

2.

Lay hold of your Piece with your Left Hand a little above the Lock, the Thumb along the side of the Stock, falling back with your Right Foot, setting it to the Right, that your Aspect may be full to the Front, none of your Fingers over the Barrel, your Right Hand as low as you can reach without constraint, your Piece clean from your Body, the Butt-end before

*Commands.**Number of Motions.**Directions.*

before your Right Knee, Elbows a little turn'd outward, and the Left Knee bent forward, your Piece not Grasp'd with your Right Hand, but the Fingers extended just below the Lock.

IV.

Cock your
Firelocks.

1.

Bring your Hand from behind the Lock, round, and place your Thumb over the Cock, your Fore-Finger behind the Triger; bring your Piece a little towards your Body, Cock it, keeping the same

2.

Posture: With a Brisk Motion bring up your Right Foot, even with your Left, turn your Right Toe outward, and your Piece Recover'd before you, the Barrel towards you, your Left Hand as

B 2

high

Commands.

Directions.

Number of Motions.

V.
Present.

high as your Face, Elbows extended as high as your Shoulders.

Stepping your Right Foot back, (so much to the Right as to keep a full Body to the Front) bring your Piece down Level, the Butt-end betwixt your Right Breast and Shoulder, both Elbows extended as high as your Piece: Present Breast high.

VI.
Pre.

Without any Motion of your Piece or Body, draw your Triger quick with your Fore-Finger; keep your Posture, till the next Word of Command.

VII.
Recover
your Firelocks.

With a strong Motion briskly, bring up your Right Foot, placing your Heel

*Commands.**Directions.**Number of Motions.*

Heel against the Hollow of your Left: Your Firelock Recover'd before you, your Left Hand above the Lock, as high as your Face, your Right Hand below it, Fingers extended, and your Elbows turn'd outwards, as high as your Shoulder.

VIII.

*Half-Cock
your Firelocks.*

1. Bring your Hand round with a quick Motion from behind the Lock, and place your Thumb full on the Cock; with
2. a quick Motion put your Firelock again clean from your Body, Half-Cock. Your Right Hand behind the Lock, Fingers extended.

Face

Commands.	Number of Motions.	Directions.
IX. Handle : your Primers.	1. 2. 3.	Face briskly to the Right on the Left Foot, let your Piece fall Level, at the same Time quitting your Piece, with your Right Hand, take hold of your Primer in a full Hand, and bring it under your Pan.
X. Prime.	1.	Bring your Primer to the Pan, Prime, holding your Fingers extended, your Elbows Rais'd.
XI. Shut your Pan.	1. 2. 3.	Turn the back of your Hand upwards, with a full Hand plac'd under the Hammer. Shut your Pan ; At one Motion, bring your Right Hand behind the Lock, and Recover your Firelock, as in the seventh Command is directed.

With

*Commands.**Directions.**Number of Motions.*

XII.
Cast about
to Charge.

1.

With a quick Motion, keeping both Hands fix'd, turn your Firelock the Barrel from you, keeping it perpendicularly Upright, something towards your Left Side;

2.

Stepping forward with your Right Foot (keeping a full Aspect to the Front) sink your Piece down by your Left Side, seize it with your Right Hand, your Thumb as high as the top of the Stock strait up the side of it, standing with your Right Knee bent forward, your Body Strait.

XIII.
Handle
your Car-
tridge.

2.

With a Brisk Motion bring your Piece close to your Left Side, with both Hands, holding it ballanc'd in your Left Hand, exactly
stop'd

Commands.	Number of Actions.	Directions.
		Stop'd as before, quit your Right Hand, and draw your Cartridge out of your Box.
XIV. Open your Cartridge.	1. 2.	Raise your Right Hand as high as the Muzzle of your Piece, clap it to your Teeth, and bite off the end of it; bring it immediately with a quick Motion under the Muzzle with your Thumb on the top of your Cartridge.
XV. Charge with Cartridge.	1. 2.	Turn the Palm of your Hand from you, your Finger extended, put your Cartridge into the Barrel, and clap your Fore-Finger, and Middle-Finger on the Muzzle.
XVI. Draw your Rammer.	1. 2.	Pull it out as far as you can at the First Motion, then sink your Hand

*Commands.**Directions.*

Number of Motions.

to the Muzzle again, with the Back of your Hand toward you, and pull it clear off the Stock, then sink it Level with your Shoulder, and hold it as Pen to write with, the great End forward.

XVII.

*Shorten your
Rammers.*

1. With a quick Motion turn the great End against your Breast, holding it stop'd even with your Piece; slip down your Hand within a little of the End; holding it stop'd as before.

XVIII.

*Put them
in the Barrels.*

1. Put the end of it in upon your Cartridge, thrusting it a little down;
2. extend your Arm the middle of the Rammer;
3. with a quick Motion bring down your Hand again, holding your Ram-

Commands.	Number of Motions.	Directions.
XIX. <i>Ram down your Cartridge.</i>	5. 6. 1.	mer in a full Hand; extend your Hand to the small End, and take hold with a full Hand, with a brisk Motion put it quite down, that your Hand rests on the Muzzle, holding it still in a full Hand. Extend your Arm with your Rammer in a full Hand, as far as you can, that it bends toward you at the End, with one strong quick Motion Ram down your Charge, and hold your Hand in that Posture, till the next Word of Command.
XX. <i>Withdraw your Rammer.</i>	1. 2.	Extend your Right Arm as far as you can reach, turn the Back of your Hand upward and take hold of it at the Muzzle of your Piece, extend-

(II)

Commands.

Directions.

Number of Motions.

XXI.
*Shorten your
Rammers.*

3.

extending again your Arm draw it forth, the small End forward, and hold it, as directed in the 16th, the small End forward.

As in the Nineteenth Command, but leave a large Handful of the Rammer betwixt your Hand and Breast.

XXII.
*Return your
Rammers.*

1.

Bring up your Rammers with a quick Motion, and place the small End in the First Loop of the Stock, slipping it down, as far as your Hand will permit.

2.

Extend your Hand, and take hold of your Rammer, as far above the Muzzle of your Piece as you can reach.

3.

4.

With a quick Motion bring

Commands.	Number of Motions.	Directions.
XXIII.	5.	bring your Hand down again your Piece.
Cast off your	6.	Take hold of the Butt-end of your Rammer.
Firelocks.	1.	Bring it quite down with your Fore-Finger and Middle upon the Muzzle.
XXIV.	2.	Seize the Muzzle of your Piece with your Right Hand, and with a quick Motion with both Hands, put your Piece clear from you, and stand in that Posture.
Your Right Hand under the Lock.	1.	At once quitting the Muzzle, Face to the Left, and place your Right Hand below the Lock, at the same time, your Piece perpendicular, close to your Body, sinking your Right Hand, as low as you can, but standing upright. Facing

Commands.

Directions.

Number of Motions.

XXV.
Poise your
Firelocks.

Facing quick on your
Left Heel to the Right,
and stand as in the second
Posture.

XXVI.
Shoulder
your Firelocks.

With a quick Motion
turn your Piece the Bar-
rel from you, with your
Right Hand, at the same
time, laying hold of the
Butt End of the Stock
with your Left Hand,
hold it perpendicular a-
gainst your Left Shoul-
der, your Elbows up;
with both Hands bring it
down on your Shoulder,
without any Motion of
your Head or Body: Let
the Guard be close to
your Shoulder, the Butt
End a little inwards be-
fore your Breast; the
Muzzle slop'd high, and
stand

*Commands.**Number of Motions.**Directions.*

3.

stand thus, both Elbows extended.

With a quick Motion quit your Right Hand, bring it down strait by your Side, and at the same time let your Elbow sink, so as to hold your Piece easy.

Note, When your Arms are shoulder'd, you are always to stand with your Body strait, your Left Elbow close to your Side, your Piece well flop'd, your Heels at convenient Distance in a strait Line, Toes turn'd outward, Face erect, looking direct to the Front.

As directed in the third Words of Command.

XXVII.
Rest your
Firelocks.

Bring

*Commands.**Directions.*

XXVIII.
*Order your
 Firelocks.*

Number of Motions.

1. Bring up your Piece with your Left Hand, and let your left Hand be as high as your right Shoulder, your Fingers extended ;
2. Let go your right Hand from below the Lock and with it lay hold just below the Muzzle of your Piece, with a quick
3. Motion, bring up your Right Foot, set the Butt End on the Ground, against the outside of it ; let your Left Hand fall strait down by your Side at the same time ; holding your Piece upright, with your Left Hand, below the Muzzle, your Thumb strait up against the outside of the Stock, even

*Commands.**Directions.**Number of Motions.***XXIX.***Ground**your Firelocks.***1.**

even with the upper Part of it.

With a quick Motion facing to the Right, turn

your Piece the Barrel towards you, and your

Right Foot behind the Butt-End of the Stock

step forward a very little

Pace with your Left Foot

and slip your Hand down

at the same time, your

Piece to be equal with

your Left Foot; don't

stoop so low, but that

you may look up on your

Officer when you lay

down; allowing a little

more than the Common

Time betwixt the other

Motions; Rise up, falling

back with your Left Foot

to its former Place, your

Aspect to the Right, and

*Commands.**Directions.*

Number of Motions.

4.

the Palm of your Hand
turn'd outward, to the
Butt of your Piece:

Face to the Front, bring
your Right Foot, with a
brisk Motion, to the in-
side of the Stock, and
your Right Hand down
by your Side at the same
time.

XXX.

*Take up**your Firelocks.*

1.

With a quick Motion
turn to the Right, pla-
cing your Right Foot a-
gainst the Butt-end of
the Stock, the Palm of
the Right Hand turn'd
outwards to the Butt of
your Piece;

2.

Step forward with
your Left Foot, take hold
of your Piece with your
Right Hand, and stand as
in the second Direction,
for laying down.

D

Raise

*Commands.**Directions.*

Number of Motions.

Raise your Body, bring up your Firelock, your Aspect to the Right.

3. Face to the Front, bringing up your Right Foot to the inside of the Stock, and take hold of the Muzzle with your Right Hand; as in the Third Direction in the Eight and Twentieth Command.

XXXI.

*Rest your
Firelocks.*

1. With a quick Motion flip your Right Hand down your Piece, as low as you can, keeping your Body upright; bring your Piece up before you, and take hold of it just above the Lock with your Left Hand, turning your Right Toe outwards.

2. Falling back with your Right Foot, at the same time,

3.

*Commands.**Directions.*

Number of Motions.

XXXII.

*Club your
Firelocks.*

1.

time, place your Right Hand below the Lock, and stand as is directed in the Third Word of Command.

2.

With a brisk Motion fall back with your Right Foot, sinking your Musket as low, as you can, keeping your Body upright; then quit your Right Hand, seize your Musket about the uppermost Loup; then with a quick Motion turn the Butt-end of your Musket upwards, your Eye darting thro' the Guard; quit your Left Hand, and seize your Firelock with your Left towards the Muzzle, under your Right Hand, and with both Hands lay him on

3.

D 2

your

*Commands.**Number of Motions.**Directions.*

XXXIII.
Rest your
Firelocks.

- your Left Shoulder, keeping your Elbows up, then quit your Right Hand, and thro' it carelessly on the Right Thigh, at the same time drop your Left Elbow close to your Body.
1. Lay hold with your Right Hand, at your Left Shoulder, turn the Barrel upwards,
 2. Raise it boldly with both Hands upright;
 3. Letting go the Muzzle with your Left Hand, sink your Right Hand, that the Guard comes even with your Face, and at the same time turn
 4. the Piece, taking hold with your Left Hand, a little Distance from the Lock, the Back of your Hand

*Commands.**Directions.*

Number of Motions. 1.

XXXIV.

*Secure your
Firelocks.*

Hand towards you, your
Thumbs one upwards,
and the other down-
wards.

1. With a brisk Motion
bring up your Right Foot
even with your Left,
your Firelock pois'd,
stand as in the second
Posture, your Piece held
strong in your Right
Hand, your Thumb up-
wards on the Stock, your
Hand just under the
Lock; turn the Barrel
outwards, casting your
Firelock a little to the
Left, lay hold of the
Barrel a little above the
3. Lock with your Left
Hand, let the Muzzle
fall before you, and the
Butt-end under your
Left Arm.

Raise

*Commands.**Directions.*

XXXV.
Shoulder
your Firelocks.

Number of Motions.

1.

2.

3.

4.

Raise the Muzzle with your Left Hand, as high as your Face, lay hold with your Right Hand, just under the Lock, your Thumb up the side of the Stock, throwing it from you with a quick Motion to a Poise, turn your Piece the Barrell from you, with your Right Hand, at the same time, laying hold of the Butt-end of the Stock with your Left Hand, hold it perpendicular against your Left Shoulder, your Elbows turn'd outwards.

With both Hands bring it down on your Shoulder, without any Motion of your Head, or Body, let the Right Hand be

Commands.

Directions.

Number of Motions.

be close to your Shoulder, the Butt-end a little inwards before your Breast, the Muzzle slop'd high, and stand thus, both Elbows extended;

5. With a quick Motion quit your Right Hand, bring it down strait by your Side, and at the same time, let your Left Elbow sink, so as to hold your Piece easy.

As in the second Word of Command.

XXXVI.

*Poise your
Firelocks.*

I.

Sink your Firelock with your Right Hand, close to your Body thro' your Left, the Lock turn'd outward, at the same time, hold your Firelock with your Left Hand as high as your

XXXVII.

*Rest on your
Arms.*

*Commands.**Directions.*

Number of Motions.

your Mouth, and sink your Piece, the Butt within four Inches of the Ground ; laying hold with your Right Hand near the Muzzle, at the same time, then letting your left Hand slip up under your Right Hand, with your Elbows extended, set your Piece upon the Ground ; stand bold, and strong, your Toes turn'd outward ; as in the Posture of a shoulder'd Firelock.

XXXVIII.

*Draw your
Bayonets.*

1. Seize your Bayonet with your Right Hand, draw your Bayonets out of the Scabbard with a quick Motion, extending your Arm to the Front.

Take

Commands.

Directions.

Number of Motions.

Take care to fix your
Bayonets on your Fire-
locks.

XXXIX.

Fix your
Bayonets.

1.

Bring the Socket of
your Bayonet to the
Muzzle of your Firelock,

2.

slip down your Bayonet
on the Barrel; with a

3.

quick Motion turning
your Right Hand out-
ward, Lock your Bayo-

4.

net, quit your Right
Hand off your Bayonet,
and place it over your
Left, as in the Thirty
seventh Command, the
Third Direction.

XL.

Rest your
Bayonets.

1.

Slip down your Left
Hand on the Barrel, with

2.

your Right Hand bring
up your Piece before
your Body, the Barrel
turn'd toward you, as in

E

the

*Commands.**Directions.*

XLI.
Charge
your Bayonets
Breast-high.

Number of Motions.

3. the seventh Word of Command, falling back with your Right Foot, Rest as in the Third Command.
1. Recover your Arms, the Right Hand under the Butt-end of the Stock, your Feet standing with your Right Heel to the Left Instep; falling back with your Right Foot in a strait Line behind your Left, bring down your Arms level, with a brisk
2. Motion as low as your Breast, your Left Hand against your Breast, and Elbow raised, to rest your Arms on your Right Hand extended to the Butt-end.
- 3.

With

*Commands.**Directions.**Number of Motions.*

XLII.
*Push your
 Bayonets.*

1.

With a strong Motion extend your Left Arm, and bring the Butt-end of the Stock in your Right Hand to your Left Breast, keeping your Bayonet level, and bending forward your Left Knee.

2.

With a quick Motion bring back your Arms to the former Posture.

XLIII.
*Recover
 your Arms.*

1.

Quit your Right Hand from the Butt, and lay hold just behind the Lock, with a quick Motion, bring up your Arms to a good Recover.

2.

XLIV.
*Rest your
 Bayonets on
 your Left
 Arm.*

1.

Turn your Lock outward, step out with your Right Foot, and let the Piece fall down upon your Left Arm, at the same Time, your Right

2.

E 2

Hand

Commands.	Number of Motions.	Directions.
XLV. <i>Rest your Bayonets.</i>	1.	Hand as low as your Right Thigh. Bring up your Arms with Life to a Recover, then to the Rest.
XLVI. <i>Shoulder your Bayonets.</i>		As in the Third Word of Command. As directed in the Six and twentieth Command.
XLVII. <i>Present your Arms.</i>		Take Care to present your Arms. At three Motions you rest your Firelocks; as is directed in the three first Postures.
XLVIII. <i>To the Right.</i> <i>To the Right.</i>		At the Command given, recover your Arms nimbly, keeping your Aspect.
<i>To the Right.</i> <i>To the Right.</i>		Without swinging your Arms, keeping them perpendicularly before you, face

Commands.

Directions.

Number of Motions

XLIX.

To the Right
About.

face to the Hand named.

Bring down your
Arms smartly, falling
back with your Right
Foot, you present your
Arms, standing as di-
rected in the Third Po-
sture.

L.

To the Left,
as you were.

LI.

To the Left
Four Times.

LII.

To the Left
About.

Bring

Commands.	Number of Motions.	Directions.
LIII. <i>To the Right as you were</i>		
LIV. <i>Poise your Firelocks.</i>		Bring up your Right Foot even with your Front, your Firelock in your Right Hand extended before you, as in the second Posture.
LV. <i>Rest on your Arms.</i>		As is directed in Command 37.
LVI. <i>Unfix your Bayonets.</i>	1. 2. 3.	Seize the Socket of your Bayonet with your Right Hand, turn it inwards, unlock it; Discharge it from the Barrel, and hold it up before you.
LVII. <i>Return your Bayonets.</i>	1. 2. 3.	Lodge the Point in the Scabbard, at one Motion; then Thrust it home,

Commands.

Number of Motions.

Directions.

home, and seize the
Muzzle of your Piece
with your Right Hand.

LVIII.

*Poise your
Firelocks.*

As you Learn'd be-
fore.

LIX.

*Shoulder
your Firelocks.*

As you Learn'd be-
fore.

All

Commands.	Number of Motions.	Directions.
LX. Poise your Firelocks.		
Order your Firelocks.		All as before instructed.
Ground your Firelocks.		
Face to the Right About.		Take Care to quit your Arms, with a be- coming Carriage.
March.		All March clear of the Arms, and disperse; and at the Beat of Drum, return to their Arms, with their Swords drawn, and a Huzza.

Of the D R U M.

OUR Soldiers being sufficiently instructed in the Postures of the Firelock, Bayonet, and Cartridge-Box, it will be as highly necessary for them to learn the Knowledge of the several Beats of the Drum: For the Drum is the Voice of the Commander, the Spur of the Valiant, and the Heart of the Soldier: And by the Drum they must receive their Directions, when the Roaring Canon, the Clashing of Arms, the Neighing of Horses

F and

and other Great Noise causeth, that the Commanders in Chief, nor their Officers can be heard.

There are Six several Beats generally used that are Points of War, (*viz.*)

1. *A Call.*
2. *A Troop.*
3. *A March*
4. *A Preparative.*
5. *A Battail.*
6. *A Retreat.*

1. By a Call, you must prepare to hear present Proclamation, or Orders,

Orders, or else to repair to your Colours.

2. By a Troop, you must diligently March as the Officer directs.

3. By a March Beaten, you are to take your open Order in Rank, to shoulder your Firelock, and to March either Quicker, or Slower, according to the Beat of the Drum.

4. By a Preparative, you are to Close to your due Distance, (for an Engagement) both in Rank, and File, and to make Ready that you may execute, upon the first Command.

F 2

5. By

5. By the Battail, or Charge, understand the Continuation, or pressing forward in Order of Battle; not lagging behind rather with the highest Pitch of Courage, stepping forward, into the Place of him that falls Dead, or Wounded: And let your Courage, and Prudence be so joyn'd, that you may perform, and attain things Noble, and Great.

6. By a Retreat, observe an orderly Retiring, either for Relief, for advantage of Ground, or for some other Political End; as to draw the Enemy into some Ambushcade, or otherwise
to

to compleat your Commander's Intentions.

There are two other, (*viz.*) The Tattoo, or Taptoo, and the Revallee : They are not properly call'd Points of War : The first is used in Garrison, or upon the Rounds, to warn the Soldiers when they ought to repair to their Quarters, or Guard, and the Inhabitants when to shut their Doors ; that if any Spies, or disorderly Person be abroad, they may be the better distinguish'd.

Just before the Tattoo begins to Beat, a warning Piece is Fired ; and no Soldier

Soldier ought to be out of his Quarters, or from his Post, unless the watch Word be given him. The Revallee signifies to Rise up, or awake from Sleep; this is beat'n in the Morning to give notice to the Inhabitants, that they may be abroad with safety; at which Time the Centinels are taken off. Revalley in French is, awake; Travelley is to work again. There is a particular Beat, call'd the Serjeants Call; more may be written concerning the Drum, but this, (I hope) may suffice for this small Treatise.

Of RANKS and FILES.

*In joyning
your Men, first
draw your Sol-
diers in Files;
not in Ranks,
as some have
by Fancy used.*

By this time, I hope
my Brothers are skilful
in going thro' the
Postures of their Arms;
and well knowing in
the Beats of the Drum:
I shall therefore touch
to the youngest Practi-
tioners (hoping none will
be offended) the diffe-
rence between a Rank;
and a File. A Rank is
a row of Men, some-
times more, sometimes
fewer, Standing, Moving,
or Marching even a Breast,
or

or Shoulder to Shoulder:
 A File is a sequence of
 Men, standing one be-
 hind another, Back to
 Belly, or in a strait Line
 from Front to Rear;
 consisting sometimes of
 Four, Six, or Eight; but
 when a Commander
 wou'd shew much vari-
 ety of Exercise, then Six
 is most often used. As
 in the Grand Artillery
 Ground of the City of
London, who have the
 Honour of having some
 of the Chief Nobility of
Great Britain, entred as
 Members withthem, and
 the Principal Quality of
 that Famous City for
 their Leaders.

Of

Of Several Distances.

The Discipline of a Regiment of Foot consists greatly in Distance, and Motion. The Distances generally used in our Modern Discipline, are the Four following, viz.

<i>Close Order.</i>	} which is both in Rank and File.	{ One Foot and a half. Three Foot. Six Foot. Twelve Foot.
<i>Order.</i>		
<i>Open Order.</i>		
<i>Double Distance.</i>		

Three of which are more especially to be observ'd, viz.

Distance for { *March,*
 { *Motion,* }
 { *Skirmish.* }

For March, your Distance is to be Shoulder to Shoulder, between File and File; and six Foot between Rank and Rank. Distance for Motion, six Foot both in Rank and

and File. Distance for entire Doublings, Wheelings, and Skirmish, three Foot in Rank and File.

Close Order is useful, when they are to make any furious Firings.

Commands.

Directions for Compleating a Battalion, or Company, before an Officer begins to Exercise.

The Body being drawn up, either six, or three Deep, as your Appearance will best allow, and four Paces Distance between each Rank.

Take care to Close your Files to the Right.

To the Right.

The Right Hand File stands. The rest,

Close your Files.

Face briskly on the Left Foot, to the Right.

March.

Step off with the left Foot, and when you
Halt,

*Commands.**Directions.*

Halt, let your Left Foot be foremost; expecting the next Word of Command.

Halt.

Face briskly on the Left Foot, to the Left.

Here Serjeants should be order'd to Pace so much more Ground (in a strait Line from the Left Flank) than the Body stands on, at the above Order: At the Left of which Ground, place their Halberts, till that Interval be taken up by the next Movement.

Take care to open your Files to the Left.

To the Left.

The Right Hand File stands. The rest,

Open your Files.

Face briskly on the Right Foot to the Left.

March.

Step off with the Right Foot, beginning your first Pace, at your

G 2

Lead-

*Commands.**Directions.*

Leaders second, which will cause one Pace distance between each File, at the Left Files extending to the Ground where the Halberts were plac'd; and when you Halt, let your Right Foot be foremost; expecting the next Word of Command.

Halt.

Face briskly on the Right Foot to the Right.

*Observations,
for the Closing of
Ranks, and Files.*

Observe, that in Closing of Files, if it be to the Right? Then contrary to the opening, the Right Hand File stands, the rest Closing to the Right, taking their Distance from their next Right Hand File. If you Close to the Left? Then the Left Hand File stands; the rest of the Files Closing

*Commands.**Directions.*

Closing to the Left, taking their Distance in like manner. When Files Close to the Right, and Left; then they Close sometimes to the Right or Left outward, according to the Discretion of the Commanders.

EVOLUTIONS.

Take care to your Doublings; and carry your Arms well.

The three last Ranks stand ready to March, and Double the three first.

Rear half Files, to the Right, Double your Front | The three last Ranks stepping forwards, with the Left Foot, (as in all Doublings to the Front) at Twelve Paces, double the

*Commands.**Directions.**March.*

the three first, (that is to say) the fourth into the first, the fifth into the second, the sixth into the third; all moving gently together; looking to the Right and Left; the Leaders of the Rere half Files, at the first Pace, encline to the Right, to the Intervals, into which they are to March; the rest move strait into their Ground, and follow successively.

Half Files, to the Left, as you were.

Those that Doubled, Face, on the Right Heel, to the Left about, and stand ready to March.

March.

Stepping first with the Left Foot, at Twelve Paces, move to your former Ground, the Right Foot

*Commands.**Directions.**Halt.*

Foot making the last Pace.

Face on the Right Heel, to the Right about, and stand strait in File.

Rear half Files, to the Left, Double your Front March.

The same Ranks Double as before, only to the Left.

Half Files to the Right, as you were. March.

Face on the Left Foot to the Right about.

Stepping with the Right Foot first, at twelve Paces move to your former Ground, the Left Foot making the last Pace.

Halt.

Facing on the Left Heel to the Right about.

Front half Files, to the Right about Double your Rere.

At the Command, the three first Ranks Face on their Right Heels, to the Right about, and stand against

*Commands.**Directions.**March.*

against the Intervals of the Rere Half Files, ready to March.

At once stepping forward with the Right Foot, at twelve Paces move to the Ground into which they are to Double, the Left Foot set down by the Right, of those whom they are to Double, and stand with their Firelocks well flop'd, expecting the next Command.

Halt.

Facing on the Left Heel to the Right, turn backwards into the Ranks you Double, viz. the third into the sixth, the second into the Fifth, the first into the fourth; and stand strait in Rank, and File.

Those

*Commands.**Directions.*

*Front half Files
as you were.*

Those that Doubled,
stand ready to March.

March.

Stepping with your
Left Foot first, at twelve
Paces, move to your former
Ground.

*Front half Files
to the Left.
Double your Rere.*

Face on the Left Heel,
to the Left about, at
giving the Command.

March.

With the Left Foot
first setting down, the
Right Foot at the twelfth
Pace, on the Right of
those who they are to
Double, and stand as before.

Halt.

Face on the Right
Heel to the Left about,
and even your Ranks and
Files.

*Front half Files
as you were.*

Stand ready to March.

H

With

*Commands.**Directions.**March.*

With the Left Foot first, at twelve Paces, move to your former Ground.

*Files to the
Right Double.*

The even Files from the Right, Face on the Left Heel to the Right.

March.

Stepping with the Left Foot first, at three Paces, move to the midst of the Interval, behind their Right Hand Men, setting the Left Heel in a strait Line, with the Left Heels of the File they double, expecting the next Command.

Halt.

Face on the Left Heel, to the Left, and strait'n your Ranks, and Files.

*To the Left,
as you were.*

Face on the Left Heel, to the Left, and stand ready to March.

With

*Commands.**Directions.**March.*

With the Left Foot first, at three Paces move to your former Ground, and stand strait in Rank and File.

Files to the Left, Double.

Face on the Right Heel to the Left.

March.

Stepping with the Right Foot first, and setting the Right Heel, at the third Pace, in a strait Line behind the Right Heels of their Left Hand Men.

Halt.

Face on the Right Heel, to the Right, and stand strait in File.

To the Right, as you were.

Face on the Right Heel, to the Right.

March.

With the Right Foot first, at three Paces, move to your former Ground.

Half Ranks, to the Right Double your Files.

The Left half Rank Face on the Left Heel, to the Right, and stand ready to March. All

*Commands.**Directions.**March.*

All move together with their Left Feet first, the File next the Center, directly to the midst of the Intervals betwixt the Ranks, and the Rest March in a strait Line with the Front, 'til they come to the Ground the Center File stood on, keeping their Distance, March successively, 'til the Right Hand File, of the Left Hand Ranks, comes to the File on the Right Flank, with the Left Feet foremost, as in Doubling Files.

Halt.

Facing on the Left Heel to the Left, stand strait in Rank and File.

*To the Left,
as you were.*

The Half Ranks that Doubled, Face on their Left Heels, to the Left,
and

*Commands.**Directions.**March.*

and stand ready to
March.

All with the Left Feet
first, the Left Hand File
directly to the Ground
the Center File stood on,
the rest following succes-
sively, keeping a strait
Line with the Front, 'til
they come to their own
Ground, and stand with
their Right Feet fore-
most.

Halt.

Face on your Right
Heels to the Right, and
stand strait in Rank and
File.

*Half Ranks to
the Left, Double
your Files.*

The Right half Ranks,
Face on the Right Heel,
to the Left.

March.

Stepping with the Right
Feet first, in the same
manner as you Double to
the Left, only the Hands
and

*Commands.**Directions.**Halt.*

and Feet chang'd, the Right Foot making the last Pace.

Facing on the Right Heels to the Right; stand strait in Rank and File.

To the Right, as you were.

Face on your Right Heels to the Right; and stand ready to March.

March.

The Right Feet first, 'til they all come to their former Ground, (observing the former Direction) only the Left Feet make the last Pace.

Halt.

Face on the Left Heels, to the Left.

S I R,

I have only Room in this small Treatise, to present you with the Method of Firing in Battalion.

March

*Commands.**Directions.*

*Rere half Files
to the Left, Double
your Front Ranks
close forward to
close Order.*

Make Ready.

March one Pace Distance, your Firelocks Recover'd, and Cock'd.

Being Closed.

The first Rank keeping the Left Foot fix'd, fall back with the Right Foot, and Kneels: The second Rank stepping forward with their Left Feet, bend their Knees against their Leaders Buttock: The third Rank step first with their Right, then with their Left Feet, (each Man inclining to the Right of his immediate Leader) still keeping their Arms Recover'd, the Front Rests their Butts on the Ground with their Right Hands securing the Cock. Every

*Commands.**Directions.**Present.*

Every Man to the Right of his Leader.

Fire.

Drawing their Triggers, with one quick Motion.

Recover your Arms.

First Rank keeping the Left Foot Fix'd, stand up: The second, and third Ranks stand up streight: That is, to four Paces between each Rank. The aforesaid shou'd be often practised, with Firelocks only Primed.

Ranks Open backwards to your former Distance.

Reve half Files that Doubled, to the Right about, as you were.

As before directed.

March.

The Files being closed, March in Subdivisions, Wheeling by single Ranks, or by half Ranks, into the Flanks, or otherwise ;

Commands. *Directions.*

Halt. likewise; as the Command-
ing Officer pleases.

**To Wheel intire Divisions, or the Bat-
talion;** Ranks must be closed likewise.

Note, That in all Wheelings, you Close to the
Hand you Wheel too, and look to the con-
trary Hand in the first Rank; the rest must
carefully follow their Leader.

SIR,

Much more may be written on the many
and various Occasions, that oftentimes require
several ways of Firing; as sometimes, by rea-
son of the Scituation of the Place; the Order
of the Enemy, and the Number of Men;
with other Political and Experimental Obser-
vations, for the gaining of Sun, and Wind,
&c. all which would swell this Tract beyond
the intention of a Pocket Companion. And
the Gentlemen of the Militia Horse, expect-
ing that a Respect should be shewn them, I
I must

must for the present take leave of You, with
 humble Respects; wishing what is before said,
 may be serviceable to You, and this Kingdom
 of Great-Britain: And if I am not Crush'd
 by a more skilful Hand; I shall consult my
 Generous Friends, who are great Lovers of
 the Military Art of Discipline, and present
 You with such Instructions, as may be proper
 to follow the beforementioned,

Your Servant,

W. BRETON.

DIRECTIONS

FOR THE

SOLDIERS

OF THE

Militia Horse.

*Commands.**Directions.**Subdivisions by
Fours.*

LET the Horse be
 Drawn up three
 Deep, and when you pro-
 ceed to Exercise, March
 them off by Fours. That
 is to say, Wheel the first
 Rank by Fours, to the
 Right, the next Rank
 I 2 March

*Commands.**Number of Motions.**Directions.*

*The next
Word is,
Wheel to the
Left, and
Form a Rank
intire.*

March forward into the Ground of the first, and they Wheel as before, and so on; leave a Horse length and a half Distance between each Division: Every fourth Man, that is a Left Hand Man stand still, and the Right Hand Man by Fours, brings them about, which Forms a Rank intire.

*To Reduce them to their Marching Order
again.*

*Subdivisi-
ons of Fours,
Wheel to the
Right.
Ranks Wheel
to the Left.*

Which Reduces them to the first Posture they were drawn up in.

When

When they are in a Rank intire, in Order for Exercise; their Carbines being hung with a Swivel, to their Shoulder Belt, the Muzzle hanging down the Toe of their Right Boot. And the Hilts of their Swords placed upon their Left Thigh, very forward, up to the Pistol.

Commands.

Number of Motions.

Directions.

Lay your
Right Hand
upon your
Sword.

The Right Hand must move over the Bridle Hand; with a quick Motion.

Draw your
Sword.

1.

When Drawn, let the Point hang down a small time, then place the Pommel of the Hilt on your Right Thigh, the Point over your Horse's Left Ear.

Place your
Sword in your
Bridle Hand.

1.

Clap your Sword into your Left Hand, about six Inches above the Hilt: Your Thumb on the Flat of

*Commands.**Number of Motions.**Directions.*

*Foyn your
Right Hand
to your Left
Pistol.*

2.

of the Blade, Rest your Sword against the Burr of your Saddle, the Point directing over your Horse's Head.

*Draw forth
your Pistol.*

Sieze the Pistol with your Right Hand, over the Left Arm, between your Sword, and your Body.

*Cock your
Pistol.*

1.

Hold it up, so that the Cock be even with the Top of your Right Shoulder, and in an even Line with your Sword.

2.

Letting him fall down between your Thumb of your Left Hand, and the Blade of your Sword, the Muzzle a little raised,

3.

and lifting your right Elbow up, Cock; then raise your Pistol to the Tip of your Shoulder.

Level

*Commands.**Directions.*

Number of Motions.

Present.

Level you Pistol, strait from your Right Shoulder.

Fire.

Pull your Triger with a strong Motion and steady Arm.

Return your Pistol.

3.

The same way as you drew it.

Joyn your Right Hand to your Right Pistol.

Turn the Back of your Right Hand toward your Saddle, seize your Pistol.

Draw forth your Pistol.

As before.

Cock your Pistol.

As before.

Present.

As before.

Fire.

As before.

Return your Pistol.

The same way as you drew it.

Unstrap

*Unstrap your Carbine.**Commands.**Number of Motions.**Directions.*

*Lay your
Right Hand
upon your
Carbine.*

Raise your Right Hand, as high as your Shoulder, let it fall down with a quick Motion, upon the handling place of your Carbine.

*Mount your
Carbine.*

Raise him up with a quick strong Motion, fix the Butt against the Burr of your Saddle, the Muzzle mounted in a Line to the Point of your Sword.

*Cock your
Carbine.*

Let him fall down between the Thumb of your Left Hand, and Blade of your Sword, raise both your Elbows, Cock, with a strong Motion, then raise him up to the Posture before.

Let

*Commands.**Directions.**Present.*

Number of Motions.

Let your Bridle slip through your Hand a little way, to ease your Horse's Mouth: Place the Butt of your Carbine against your Right Breast, raise both your Elbows, resting your Carbine on your Left Hand within your Sword.

Fire.

Pull your Triger with a strong Motion.

Sink your Carbine.

1.

2.

Raise your Carbine upright, let him fall down by your Horse's side; as at first.

Recover your Sword.

1.

2.

Seize your Sword with your Right Hand, and place him upon your Thigh, with the Point over your Horse's Left Ear. As before.

K

Put

Commands.	Number of Motions.	Directions.
Return your Sword.	1.	Put the Point over your Left Arm, to the Mouth of the Scabbard and half way down,
	2.	Thrust it home into the Scabbard, with a quick Motion return your Hand to your Right Side.

The Scabbard should have a Brass turn in Locket.

When the Militia Horse in the several respective Counties are managed, and made fit for further Discipline ; I shall present further Directions for their Evolutions, &c. But until the Horses are manag'd, they can not double Ranks and Files. Therefore, at present, 'tis proper that the Soldiers, should go thro' the Exercise of Arms, as the Dagoons do, on Foot ; every tenth Man, hold Horses.

GENTLEMEN,

The before mentioned, now Practicall part of the Military Art of Discipline, is not of my single Opinion, for 'tis used by the Gentlemen of His Majesty's Guards: Nor dare I presume so far, as to set forth any certain Rules for Discipline; about which, many Authors of various Nations do differ, both in Names, Figures, and Directions; but this I assure, what is herein set forth, is with the concurring Opinion of several Gentlemen, who have so long studied, and practis'd the Art of Military Discipline, that they are Adornments to Martial Proweess, being well skill'd in the Theory or Practic part thereof; wishing you all Happiness, I am,

Your Servant,

W. B.

GENERAL INDEX

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been mentioned in the text of the book. The names are arranged in alphabetical order, and the page on which each name is first mentioned is given in parentheses. The names are: A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100)

John Brown

W. B.